

CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION

HowNiKan

People of the Fire

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Norma Neely looks into glacier retreat

CPN member researches Antarctica

(Editor's note: Dr. Norma Neely is a Citizen Potawatomi Nation member and the Science Instruction Facilitator for the Northeast Regional Professional Development Center at Truman State University in Kirksville, Missouri. Dr. Neely spent the Christmas 2007/New Year's 2008 holiday season on a research trip to Antarctica. She wrote about the trip for the HowNiKan.

Dr. Neely also discussed the trip on the CPN radio program The Native American Speaks. You can listen to that interview on the internet at www.potawatomi.org/pubinfo/TNAS/TNAS-Neely021008.mp3.)

A once-in-a-lifetime experience; challenging physical environment; the cold and wind; up-close and personal with penguins and scientists; passport and visa - these were just some of my thoughts when I learned I had been selected to participate in a National Science Foundation-funded research opportunity that would take me to Antarctica.

This International Polar Year grant through The University of Texas at El Paso included 15 university undergraduates,



Rules are rules. If one visits Antarctica, one must return with photos of lots of penguins. CPN member Norma Neely did, and she did!

five graduate students, and five educators from across the country as well as four scientists/professors. Participants worked in five teams exploring the Antarctic terrestrial ecosystem, the aquatic ecosystem, glaciers, ecotourism, and education. In addition to the research findings, which are

still being compiled, lesson plans that mirror the work of scientists in the field are being developed and a documentary is being made about our journey.

Our ship left from Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city in the world, on December 29, 2007 for our 10-day expedition. It took two days to cross the 600-mile-wide Drake Passage. This passage is where the fast-flowing Southern Ocean waters are squeezed between Argentina and the Antarctica Peninsula. The Antarctic Circumpolar Current mixes massive amounts of water with a flow of 130 million cubic meters per second. That flow rate is 600 times that of the Amazon; four times the flow of the Gulf Stream; and 400 times the flow of the Mississippi River.

Thankfully, our crossings were pretty mild although I kept sliding forward and

See NEELY IN ANTARCTICA on page 10



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Honoring stories, preserving memories

Cultural Heritage Center blends history, modernity

By April Wilkerson, Shawnee News-Star Staff Writer

On any given day at the Cultural Heritage Center, the story of someone's life is honored - the veteran who served in Vietnam; the man telling the emotional saga of his ancestors; the accounts of those forced to travel the Trail of Tears and the Trail of Death. The Citizen Potawatomi Nation's premier facility on Gordon Cooper Drive has only gotten more popular, and busy, in the two years since it opened. It is a place for telling stories and the preservation of those stories, of viewing artifacts and safeguarding those pieces of history.

Honoring our families and our veterans is the mission here, said Cindy Stewart, facilities manager and executive assistant to the director.

In the center's total 36,000 square feet of space, visitors use high-tech methods to peruse ancient history. In the Long Room, which also serves as meeting space for some 700 people, the Veterans' Wall of Honor is the main attraction. Ten display cases contain uniforms and other memorabilia of tribal soldiers who served from the Civil War to today's Iraq and Afghanistan wars. Computer kiosks allow people to search 650 names of veterans and their service. Pictures of 240 of those veterans are available.

A quotation along the ceiling, author unknown, tells the tribe's philosophy: Poor is the nation that has no heroes, but dis-



Jon Boursaw, director of the Cultural Heritage Center, points out a cane which concealed a dagger that belonged to Potawatomi chief Abram Burnett.

graceful are those who having them forgotten.

Jon Boursaw, executive director of the Cultural Heritage Center, is honored for his own military service. He said the veterans' wall, along with the center's mission of preserving veteran and tribal stories, has been a healing and learning experience, both for natives and non-natives. The more that people discover what takes place at the center, the more stories and photos they provide, he said.

Much of the rest of the facility is devoted to the display of that history. A tree-

lined walk takes visitors into an area featuring many more photos, artifacts and historical records. Banners represent the 49 founding families who signed the Treaty of 1861 in Kansas. Eight projectors show more family photos, thousands during every week. Glass, climate-controlled display cases hold much more: traditional men's and women's regalia, ledgers of allotments and census rolls, many of them

very old and fragile.



There are more artifacts and pictures exhibited in the large facility.

A large, winding pictorial wall tells of the migration of the Citizen Potawatomi from before the arrival of Europeans to the tribe's coming to Oklahoma to their progress during their time here. A timeline gives visitors details from different perspectives. These markers tell you what was happening in the non-Indian world and what was happening in the world of Native Americans. It gives you a correlation, Boursaw said.

Several artifacts, too, are featured in cases along the wall, including a cane on loan from the Kansas Historical Society. Once the cane was prepared for display, Boursaw said there was a surprise: the top half of the cane separated and became a dagger. It belonged to a chief who was on

the 1838 Trail of Death, Boursaw said. He was always shown with the cane in pictures. We're trying to add more artifacts to the wall to make the photos more like living history.

Along another wall the 14-by-40-foot Treaty Wall are copies of 22 of the 44 treaties the Citizen Potawatomi Nation has with the federal government, dating to the 1700s. Nearby computer kiosks allow people to view the treaties as they appear on the wall or in printed text. The other 22 treaties will be going up in the future. They are the actual size, color and shape of the treaties as they are in the National Archives, Boursaw said. We were fortunate that the archives let us scan the originals.

Other parts of the building are dedicated to the preservation and storage of artifacts. In the White Glove Examination Room, the name tells of the attire required to examine precious artifacts, including one taking center stage this week: a foot locker, or storage trunk, dating to the 1890s and thought to be the only one of its type left. On the side of the foot locker are the words Carlisle Indian School, the Indian boarding school in Carlisle, Pa., that Jim Thorpe attended.

In the next-door secure storage area, the humidity is kept at 60-65 percent to preserve the thousands of artifacts lining tall shelves that move with the touch of a button. In one drawer is a woman's regalia from the early 1900s, an extremely fragile dress that still had long strands of black hair on it when it arrived. However, artifacts must first go through the Cleaning and Processing Room, where staff members ensure they're free from fungus or insects. One area contains a CO2 cocoon, the first of its kind in a U.S. museum, and the other a freezer that drops the temperature to 41 degrees below zero. Both processes, gassing or freezing, kill any unseen invaders that could damage items in storage, Stewart said. The director of this area is fondly called the bug lady.

Much of the rest of the facility is devoted to the various ways people can tell the stories of their lives and research their ancestors. A video room allows people to watch family DVDs, including many of the stories of the 49 founding families. A library contains many books about tribal history, and the tribal rolls are housed in the facility as well. The Family Research

HOWNIKAN

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www.Potawatomi.org



CHC staff member Cindy Stewart points out the family videos that are available for viewing.

Area has a more relaxed feel with sofas and chairs where people can watch more videos and look through archive boxes of family history and photographs. Nearby are three computers for genealogical research.

Another high-tech area is a television studio where the stories of veterans and elders are recorded. Stewart said they also call it the healing room because when difficult stories are shared, such as war service or a family's forced removal, there is healing in the telling. When people see the family videos, they want to be a part of it, Stewart said. We honor families and want you to come in and tell your story. We

want you to remember what it was like as a child and the stories your grandparents and great-grandparents told. But we also want to know what is going on in your life today.

A children's area soon will be built and will feature a full-sized wigwam and 12-foot birch bark and dugout canoes the



Workers are busy preparing the children's area at the Cultural Heritage Center.

youth can crawl through.

Artwork by tribal member Beverly Fentress lines the foyer and an inside wall, her vibrant colors and illustrations further telling the Potawatomi story with images ranging from a round house to a medicine wheel to the grand entry of a pow wow.

The Cultural Heritage Center has been popular with both tribal members and non-natives, Stewart said, and is a place for both in-depth research and preliminary

learning. It is a place for all people to learn more about the tribe and its evolution.

The center and its gift shop are open six days a week. For more information, go to www.potawatomi.org.

Citizen Potawatomi Nation All-Indian Open 2008

July 4 (Scramble), July 5 and July 6
(Individual Stroke/Handicap Play)
FireLake Golf Course

in Shawnee, Oklahoma

July 4 (8 a.m. Shotgun Start)
July 5 and 6 (8 a.m. Tee Times)

Cost:

\$25 for scramble only (Cash Prizes!)

\$100 for weekend stroke-play
tournament (Cash Prizes!)

\$125 for all 3 days

Format for scramble: Blind draw

Format for weekend stroke-play
tournament: Two divisions. One for
stroke play (no handicap) and one for
stroke play (handicap deducted). You
must have a USGA, GHIN, or pro-
attested handicap to be eligible for
handicap division.

Must have a Tribal Membership
or CDIB Card



FYI: This statue stands on the lawn of the La Porte County Courthouse in La Porte, Indiana. Its plaque reads: On land once belonging to his people, this Potawatomi Indian stands. His broken spear a symbol of peace with the pioneers. Presented by the citizens of La Porte in our nation's bicentennial year...1976. Howard A. Demyer Sculptor.

The sculpture is of welded copper with a base of concrete with pea gravel.

William 'Bill' Pearce CPN Legislative Candidate District #1



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*MANAGEMENT

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WADASEWEN
(BRAVERY)

EDBESENDOWEN
(HUMILITY)

BWAKAWEN
(WISDOM)



Great-Granddaughter's
Naming (Gi Go We)



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OF THE NATION, AND SERVICE TO DISTRICT #1.
Migwech Nikan

CONTACT -- www.royslavin.com or e-mail rjsslavin@sbcglobal.net

Potawatomi Cornerstone: Potawatomi Astronomy

By Charles Clark, Director Tribal Rolls

When you look into the night sky, the stars and planets you see have been named for deities, legendary heroes, mystical animals, and fabled characters from Greek and Roman lore. Even with the advent of the telescope, discoveries of celestial objects have continued to be named in Latin and Greek terminology. Universal as the vocabulary may be, have you ever wondered how the Native Americans saw the starry-laden sky; if they pieced the stars together as constellations; what they named them; and the stories behind them?

The study of astronomy is a universal concept. Since times past, our ancestors have looked into the sky with the same passion and inquisitiveness as their Eastern counterparts. They too, strove to understand the motion of the cosmological bodies to predict celestial events in relation to the time of the seasons, when to plant, when to harvest, and as a means of navigation. The celestial objects also played a major role in all Native American customs and beliefs, being incorporated into ceremonies and storytelling.

Terms that describe Native American cosmology are Archaeoastronomy and Petroform Astronomy. Archaeoastronomy is the primitive or ancient study and interpretation of astronomical events. Petroform Astronomy is the use of placement markers made of stone to predict or observe celestial events. Both terms describe the primitive. However, architecture in design and application to study such movements and events are sophisticated, and just as refined as those found scattered across Europe and Asia.

Since writing space is limited, I will touch on some of the more familiar objects and concepts of Neshnabe stargazing.

The Heavens are called Shpemek, and the universe or Star World is Negosekwun. The carpet of stars that we see as the Milky Way is called Pneshi Myew or the Bird's Path. Another reference refers to the Milky Way as Jibe Myew, or Spirit Path, the path taken by the sprits to the spirit world after death.

Because the stars move from east to west, the Neshnabe believed that new life began in the Eastern Sky, Wech Mokek, and that life traveled westward. When we passed on, our spirit would travel to the Western Sky, Wech Bgeshmo, taking the path of the Milky Way.



Neshnabe of long ago knew the stars and constellations, including The Fisher and The Pleiades.

The motion of the sky is called Gzheba Gishek, Revolving Sky. The concept of the revolving sky is incorporated in dancing in a circular pattern around the drum arbor at powwows.

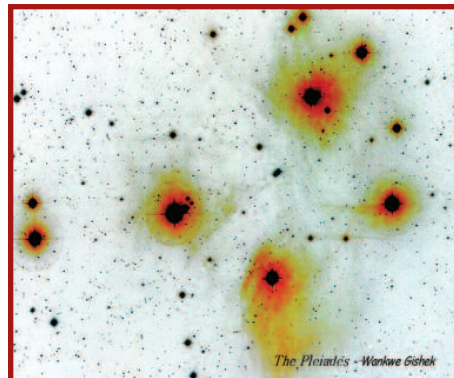
The Neshnabe were aware of the independent movement of the planets. However, they viewed them as stars. And as such, the Neshnabe used them more for navigation and following certain paths. For example, when Venus is seen as an evening star, a poem reads, I am rising to seek the war path, the earth and sky are before me. I walk by day and by night, and the evening star is my guide.

The planet Venus is known by three names, depending on its position in the sky. When it appears in the east in the morning it is called Wabun Negos, the Dawn or Eastern Star. When it appears in the evening in the west it is called Bgeshmo Negos, the Western Star. Seen during the day, it is known as Gishgo Negos, the Day Star.

Jupiter, the brightest of the planets was known as Shawano Negos, the Southern star.

One of the most familiar stars in our hemisphere is the North Star, known as Polaris. It is the only star that appears fixed to the unaided eye. Our ancestors were aware of this and used it as a fixed means of course-plotting, especially useful when venturing through the Great Lakes area. The Ojibwe called it Giwe danang, the Star of the North. Another Neshnabe word for the star is Kiweden Negos.

The best-known constellation in the northern hemisphere is the Big Dipper, Ursa Major or the Great Bear. Our ancestors saw this same grouping of stars as their European and Asian counterparts. Coincidentally many of our ancestral sto-



ries describe it as a bear as well. However, Neshnabe teachings also denote the Big Dipper as a Fisher, or a weasel, known as Ojig Negos.

The Fisher was a great hunter who lived in the winter world. During this time, many of the animals and people would perish because of the lack of food. The only way to save them was for the Fisher to go to the summer world and bring back the warm weather. But the people and animals of the summer world refused to give the Fisher their warm weather.

The Fisher called his winter companions to formulate a plan. Because the muskrat lived between the two seasons, it knew where summer was hidden; in a secret bag located at the center of a far-away island. They secured the bag and were on their way back to the winter world but the animals and villagers of the summer world followed them back to the winter world. The Fisher was seen carrying the bag and ran up a tree to flee from the summer animals. An arrow was cast, striking the Fisher, carrying him and the bag up to the sky.

The Creator knew that the Fisher wanted to save his friends from starvation, so he prevented the Fisher from falling from the sky by placing him among the stars. Thus, every winter, when the arrow strikes the Fisher, he rolls onto his back, low into the northern sky, near the horizon. During the summer when food is plentiful, he rolls onto his feet, sitting high in the northern sky.

Another popular group of stars that make their appearance during the winter months are the Pleiades. They are classified as a star cluster, found in the constellation Taurus. This small unobtrusive cluster holds many stories in both Native

American culture and Greek and Roman mythology.

The only way to see this cluster with the unaided eye is on a completely dark night, unimpeded by any form of light pollution. When viewed, the cluster appears to be in a hole in the sky. In fact, the Neshnabe word for the Pleiades is Wankwe Gishek, the Hole in the Sky, the portal that leads to the spirit world.

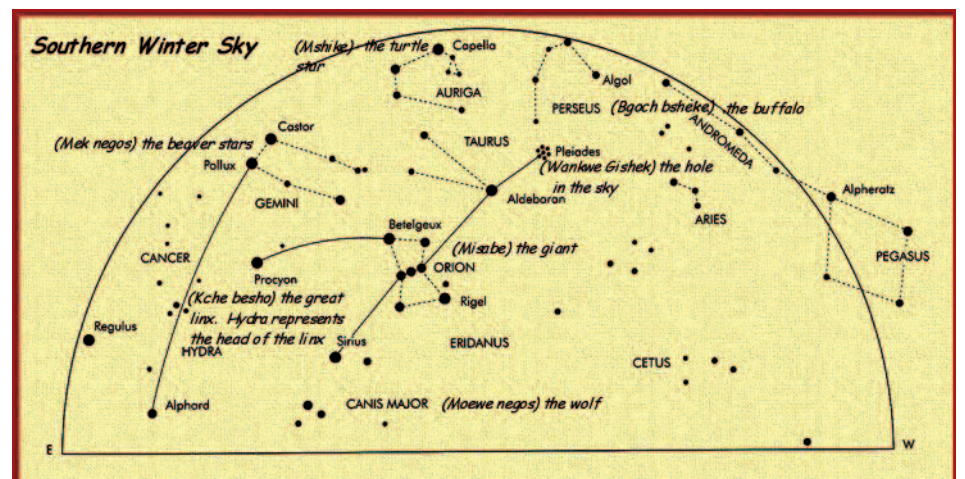
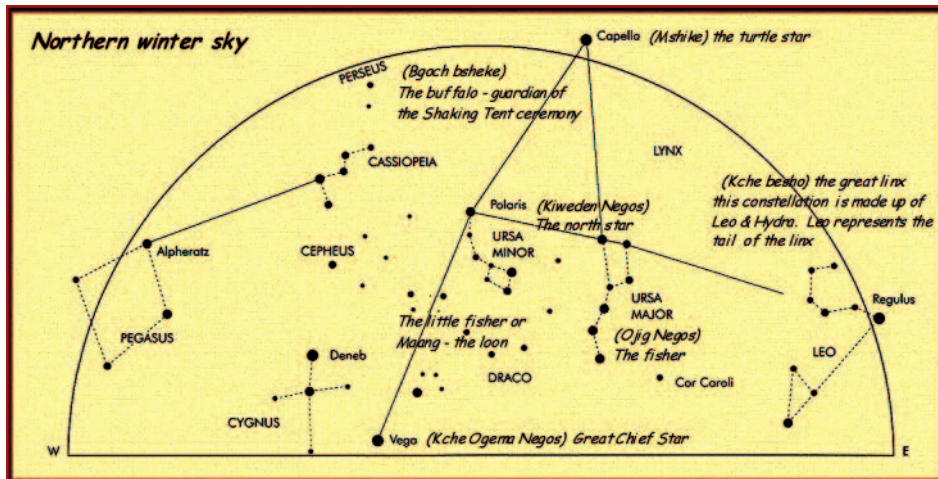
In Greek and Roman mythology the seven brightest stars in the cluster are known as the seven sisters, the daughters of Pleione, and the children of Atlas. In the Neshnabe culture, the seven stars relate to the opening between the earth and the Anungokwun, the Star World.

The seven stars represent several ceremonies in the Neshnabe culture. For the ceremony called Jisaka, the shaking tent ceremony, the seven stars represent the seven poles for the tent-shaking. The turtle star or Mshike, known as Capella, the brightest star in the constellation of Auriga, is the interpreter for the ceremony. The spirits speak in their own language and the turtle translates to the people. In the Mdodogemek, the sweat lodge ceremony, the seven stars represent the seven stones used in the observance. The stars also represent the seven grandfathers who give instructions on how to conduct the purification ceremony of the sweat lodge.

Coincidentally, there is an Neshnabe story that relates the seven stars of the Pleiades to the seven sisters found in ancient European culture.

There were seven sisters who ignored their father's instructions about descending to the Earth. The father is referred to as the moon. When father was low on the horizon, the sisters descended down to the earth in a basket to sing and dance, but one of the sisters was captured by a human. The other sisters ascended back into the sky. The sister who was left behind fell in love with her captor and ultimately married him. The other sisters lowered the basket to take the couple back up into the sky. Grandfather Sun disapproved of the marriage but allowed the couple to visit the Earth from time to time. As for the other sisters, Grandfather Sun sent them further away from the Earth, where they are barely seen.

Another narrative relates to seven children who played all the time, rather than helping their parents tend the camp. Their



These astronomical charts show what the Neshnabe saw in the northern and southern skies.

mother sought advice, hoping to remedy the situation. She was told to place small stones in their food. It was thought that by making the children work to remove the stones for a clean plate of food, they would appreciate the fruits of their labor. Unfortunately, the idea failed. The children kept dancing and singing to their hearts' content. One day, they danced so hard they danced up into the sky. During the winter months, they can be seen in the sky. In the summer months, during the time of Earthly ceremonies, the children cannot be seen in the sky. It is during this time that they

come back down to Earth to dance and to sing.

Found in the same constellation as Taurus is a barely resolvable nebulous patch without stars that resides near the horn of the great bull. This small nebula was later discovered to be a star that went nova (exploded) in 1054.

There are only two references made to the bright star that suddenly appeared on the morning of July 5, 1054. A reference is made by Chinese astronomers, and two pictographs are found in Arizona. It is not

known if there is any account from the Neshnabe, but it is likely that they did observe this. It was a nova on a grand scale. It was so bright that it could be seen in the day time for a period of several years.

The constellation Orion, the mythical hunter in Greek lore, is yet another winter constellation seen in the southern sky. It is the most brilliant of all constellations and is very important in our culture. Named for Misabe, the Giant, it also refers to Nanabush Anung, or Nanabush, the elder

brother and teacher of the Neshnabe, original man.

Vega, the brightest star in the constellation Lyra, and fifth brightest in the sky, is known as the Great Chief Star or Kche Ogema Negos. The star has two purposes: it controls the force of gravity, causing the water in the lakes and rivers to rise into the sky to be later used as snowfall, and it rules over all the others stars by assigning them roles.

Recurring stellar phenomena have deep roots in our culture as well. One that is see **POTAWATOMI CORNERSTONE** on page 13

Eva Marie Carney for Legislator, District #2

Proud member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation & the Juneau Family



Loving wife & mother of two teenage CPN members

Active Virginia community member: former PTA president & ongoing school, food bank & legal services volunteer

Practicing lawyer for 20+ years: J.D., Stanford Law School 1983; B.A., Univ. of San Francisco 1980

Familiar with general accounting & corporate governance issues - Partner in law firm with active securities practice

Work experience on Capitol Hill, with federal regulatory agencies, and as law clerk to judges in California & Washington, D.C.

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For more information or to share your ideas, visit www.evamariecarney.com

Ralph Bergeron Bazhaw Nishbon'sek Legislative District #2



Family: Great Grandson of Watchekee, daughter of Chief Joseph and Monaska. Grandfather, Charles Bergeron, and Father, Robert Bergeron (Bazhaw), were on original tribal rolls of Citizen Band Potawatomi. Ralph and wife, Lois, have a son, Ron, and a daughter, Lana, and five grandsons. They reside in Pleasant Garden, North Carolina.

Education: Graduate, Cement, Oklahoma High School; BSEE, Oklahoma State University; Masters Certificate Project Management, George Washington University

Experience: Retired after 31 years in telecommunications for the Bell System (engineering, sales, and project management.) Currently instructor GTCC and high school basketball referee. Ralph shares his heritage with children and adults at schools, nursing homes, and other organizations

Education - Experience - Heritage - Bridging the Generations

Ralph is a man with a deep spiritual center who can bring people together using wisdom of the past to solve the problems of today. He possesses the foresight to plan for the future.

With the help of the Great Spirit, I offer myself in service to my people. I would appreciate your vote. - Ralph Bazhaw

Auburn man making history in Oklahoma

Auburn's Finks elected as out-of-state legislator with Citizen Potawatomi Nation

by Gus Thomson - Auburn, California
Journal Staff Writer

Auburn's Thom Finks is making history as an elected representative with Oklahoma's 27,000-member Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Earlier this month, the tribe became the first in the nation to hold a vote to elect legislative representatives from outside the borders of its federally designated jurisdiction.

Finks, the owner of Sundance Computers in Auburn, was elected without opposition for the Northern California-Northern Nevada-Hawaii region. That makes him part of a ground-breaking effort by the Potawatomi tribe to reach out politically to its members outside Oklahoma.

Finks, 59, said that he'll be representing 3,500 regional tribal members in a position that offers no compensation but plenty of challenges in the health care and medical facilities areas.

The Citizen Potawatomis worked for 15 years to develop a new constitution that would include out-of-state representatives. Members of the tribe have been able to vote by absentee ballot for 20 years and regional meetings are held throughout the U.S. But a nationwide election of legislature members - half are from Oklahoma



Ben Furtado/Auburn Journal - Auburn's Thom Finks is making history as an elected representative with Oklahoma's Citizen Potawatomi tribe.

and half are from outside the state - is unprecedented. No Indian tribe has ever done this, Finks said.

Finks has lived in Auburn and operated Sundance Computers for the past 13 years. He grew up in Southern California. His mother had settled there with her family in the 1930s to escape Dust Bowl conditions in Oklahoma. Finks' grandmother is a full-blooded Citizen Potawatomi.

Finks' interest in his Indian heritage increased when he was in his thirties and he soon became involved in traditional dancing. My career was established and I had the time and wherewithal to start investigating, he said. What I found was

that this tribe is probably one of the most progressive and forward looking, bar none.

Finks has served the past eight years as regional director for Northern California and Nevada, becoming a well-known and respected leader. Regional meetings of the former tribal leadership group in Northern California have drawn 450 people. Finks said he's hoping to establish a regional office, although he hasn't decided on a location in the region.

For legislature meetings, Finks and other representatives will use teleconferencing, with Oklahoma legislators assembled at the new legislative chamber in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

Finks points to a tribe that has been ably led over the past three decades by Chairman John Rocky Barrett and able to employ business acumen to a point where it owns the largest grocery store in Oklahoma, one of the few five-star golf courses in the state and one of the largest casinos - the 125,000 square-foot FireLake Grand Casino, opened in October 2006. Revenues from businesses last year reached nearly \$300 million. These are entrepreneurs who took absolute spit and did something with it, with minimal assistance over the last 35 years, Finks said.

Finks' presence in the new legislature adds respected business experience, said Michael Dodson, director of public information for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. He brings a lot of years of business experience and has an excellent head on his shoulders, Dodson added. Plus, he has a very caring attitude about the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and its members.

Dodson said entrepreneurship has been a major hallmark of the tribe for centuries. The Potawatomi people owned the first McCormick reaper dealership in the 1800s and were astute traders with the settlers heading west, he said.

Living in Auburn, Finks has watched the growth of the Thunder Valley Casino near Roseville. It's owned by the 200-member United Auburn Indian Community. I think it's great, he said. They're doing a good job and taking care of business - and Placer County is doing well by it.

People shouldn't begrudge the profits being made by the Auburn tribe or others, he added. We've had our language, religion, way of life and lands taken away - even our people, he said. The only thing we had left was that little thing about gambling.

Tribes should guard their sovereignty and could use the Potawatomi Nation as a guide, Finks said.

ROBERT WHISTLER - for District 3 Legislative Representative

I would not be in this run-off without the support of those who voted for me. I thank them for their support and Lu Ellis for her endorsement. I again need all of your votes and will strive to move us into the future for all future generations. I offer you my 35 years of experience as:

Bob the Legislator

- * City employees reported their job security increased 44%
- * Reduced city employee turnover from 16.3% to 7.4%
- * Introduced zero based budget system to city.
- * Increased weekly library hours from 44 to 59 at no increase in city budget expense.
- * Recognized by city staff for improving EMS for citizens

Bob the Businessman

- * Created, monitored, and controlled multi-million dollar budgets as a city General Manager for American Airlines
- * Designed customer service plan for 15 million customers
- * Customer service and crisis management experience
- * Known for being fair, consistent and a team player
- * BS degree in Business Administration



Vote for

Robert Whistler - District 3

My primary goals are to increase tribal enterprises and bring more benefits and service to you. In order to do this, I need your vote and promise to serve you well.



"I'll work hard to make sure that the CPN members outside of Oklahoma begin to benefit directly from the economic success our tribe has begun to enjoy."

Brian K. Walker
Helcel/Vieux Descendent



Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Heritage Center and FireLake Gifts Preserving Potawatomi Heritage

Archival Notebook

R. Blake Norton, Tribal Archivist

The Archival Notebook is an informative look into the activities of the Cultural Heritage Center's (CHC) Tribal Archives. Within the newsletter we will discuss exciting current and future projects, as well as projects that readers can do at home. Readers will have the opportunity to take a look into a real archival and collections management program.

The CHC would like to thank all the tribal members who have donated and/or loaned materials to the archival collection. Ninety percent of the archival collection is made up of materials either donated or loaned to the CHC. With the CPN so deeply rooted in family ties, genealogical research is at the forefront of activities provided at the CHC. With this in mind, I encourage all tribal members, young and old, to donate and/or loan any historical, genealogical, or cultural material.

On occasion the CHC acquires materials that have little or no background information. With assistance from tribal members, we can build a more complete and comprehensive understanding of these cultural and historical treasures.

One such situation was brought to our attention by Mr. Phillip Dorn, a member of the Wesselhöft family. Mr. Dorn has loaned a portrait of Josie



Josie Wesselhöft

Wesselhöft to the CHC's Tribal Archives to be digitized. Upon completion of the loan agreement, Mr. Dorn stated that he knew little about the woman and the portrait. The portrait is thought to have been produced in the 1880s and was acquired from Raymond Wesselhöft, father of Paul Wesselhöft. If anyone has any information on this individual please contact the Tribal Archivist. The Cultural Heritage Center and Mr. Dorn thank you for any assistance given to this matter.

If you are interested in donating and/or loaning any material, please contact R. Blake Norton at 405-878-5830 ext. 7120 or at bnorton@potawatomi.org.

CHC Receives Monetary Memorial from Descendants of Abram B. Burnett

Stacy Coon, Collections Manager

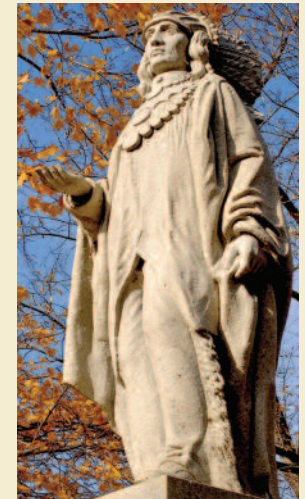
In a previous *HowNiKan*, we discussed Abram B. Burnett's cane's being on dis-

play at the Cultural Heritage Center. In response to that article, the family of the late Joseph W. Burnett, who was a great-grandson of Abram B. Burnett, gave a monetary donation to the CHC. This donation honors the late Mr. Joseph W. Burnett. Mr. Burnett's step-daughter Rita Smith-Ott, said he was very proud of his Citizen Potawatomi heritage. She suggested that the donation be used to further enhance our collection to help carry on the traditions of the Nation as she thought her step-father would have wanted.

New objects and documents are continually added to our inventory to enhance the tribe's collection. These generous donations help us fulfill our mission as interpreters and educators of our tribal history. It is with the help of the tribal members, a result of their love of their culture, that we can perpetuate the historical and cultural impact of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. With that, I say MEGWETCH, to all of you, the tribal members, for helping the CPN Cultural Heritage Center preserve and be the sustaining point for YOUR nation's treasures.

Journey to Oklahoma By Grant Brittan Tribal Heritage Project

The Tribal Heritage Project staff is in the pre-production phase of a video documentary which will chronicle the migra-



Chief Menominee Monument
Twin Lakes, Indiana

tion of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation from Indiana to Kansas and eventually to Oklahoma. We have received a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to fund the research and development

phase of this project.

Four Cultural Heritage staff members recently completed two research trips during which we followed the Potawatomi Trail of Death through Indiana and Illinois and toured several sites in Kansas. These excursions were very beneficial in



Burnett's Creek, Indiana

terms of research, gathering data, investigating locations, and photographing sections of the Potawatomi Trail of Death. We researched documents in the University of Notre Dame Library, the see *CHC NEWS* on page 14

Tragedy alters Coach Tom Pecore's style

Back from the brink

By Michael Kinney

Norman, Oklahoma Transcript Sports Writer

Four years ago Tom Pecore sat on the edge his bed with nothing in his hand but a piece of paper. He was about to make a decision that would affect the rest of his life. The sheet of paper was a resignation letter Pecore had typed up and was prepared to submit to Putnam City, Oklahoma North High School. At the time he didn't know if he could ever go back to coaching soccer.

Pecore, a longtime Norman resident and a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, said that he was going through a crisis of faith at the time. On Dec. 10, 2003, one of his players, Brian Nicholson, committed suicide, and Pecore was one of the last people to see him alive. When I saw him he had just got back from Texas from a club game, Pecore said. When I saw him, I told him to get his leg checked out and that I will see him at school. I never even looked at him in his eyes. I was more concerned about the injury and how it would affect the team.

When Pecore found out Nicholson killed himself, that last meeting between the two became a regret that would almost haunt him. And it nearly led to him give up coaching altogether. Pecore, who had coaching stints in Norman, Moore, and Chickasha, was about to do something he had never done before - give up.

I also lost my father that year, Pecore said. After Brian died, I couldn't come to practice, at school I was depressed. I couldn't deal with those boys or their needs. I sat on the edge of my bed, and I had a letter of resignation ready. My wife said she would support me. But she asked me one question. 'What would my father do?' He would not abandon me, and I couldn't abandon these boys.

Pecore decided to stay with the Panthers, but he knew he couldn't go back to the old way of doing things. His had been a win-at-all-costs type of coaching, where victory was first, last, and everything in-between. Five years ago I was a drill sergeant type, Pecore said. Inflexible. It was my way or the highway. We will win and fight. It's everybody against us - a combat attitude. We won't do that anymore.

Pecore decided that winning couldn't be the focal point of his job. Turning boys into men was now at the top of his agenda.



And, for Pecore, that meant changing his style. We changed the way we coached, Pecore said. We are still competitive and physically demanding. But it's fun. We laugh with and at each other. I modified my coaching to fit the needs of the player. Sometimes that nature can blind you to what you are doing and how you are impacting those around you. I made mistakes. I pray I didn't make any that changed lives to the negative.

For Pecore, changing the attitude of the players wasn't enough. He also looked to alter their thinking. Our philosophy no longer emphasizes winning, Pecore said. It's about relationships. Winning doesn't matter. It's about building relationships that will last a lifetime. It's about redefining what a man is. It's not about being rich, sexual conquest, or his name. We tell them it's unconditional love, commitment to service, and sacrifice. By building on those three premises, we have gone from winning is everything to winning is natural.

Despite the change in philosophy, the Panthers are still one of the top teams in Oklahoma. Their resume includes back-to-back state runner-up finishes, a top-four national ranking this year, and, most important, PCN has sent more boys to college on scholarship to play soccer than any



In the photo upper left, CPN member Tom Pecore coaches the Putnam City North High Panthers. Former PCNHS soccer player Brian Nicholson, lower left, committed suicide, leading Pecore to question whether he should continue coaching. Above, Coach Pecore and wife-of-27-years Jama join son Andy at Andy's Senior Night activities.

other Class 6A school in Oklahoma.

That includes Lance Parker, who was a goalie at PCN from 2000-04. He went to Missouri State, where he was a standout for four years. I responded to him better before the change, Parker said. I was always the type of player that, if you told me I couldn't do something, I would go and do it. But in the long run, with the way kids are now, it definitely helped that he changed.

It was a tough sell at first for many of his players the first year. But Pecore said the ones who stayed embraced what he was trying to do, as did PCN parents such as Paulene Byars. Coach Tom Pecore is truly the example of a great coach, mentor, teacher, and friend, Byars said. One of his passions is soccer. But I believe that his true passion, whether in the classroom or on the soccer field, is to ensure that each one of these young men experience the basic life skills and become better young athletes and adults.

No matter how much success Pecore has now, his thoughts will never stray too far from the player who began this entire transformation. This whole thing evolved out of a tragedy four years ago, Pecore said. We didn't realize the danger of depression in athletes. We weren't prepared to deal with it. You begin to question what you are doing wrong. That was the

beginning of the process of rethinking how you coach. Since we made that commitment to love, no drug or alcohol problems, or problems in schools. We have, I think, affected a lifelong change. A lot of people say this is hokey. But it's real.

Meanwhile, Coach Pecore was recently named one of 13 finalists for the prestigious Double-Goal Coach Award, given to outstanding youth or high school coaches. It is presented by the Positive Coaching Alliance. Pecore will travel to the seventh annual National Youth Sports Awards April 12 at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California for the ceremony.

The Double-Goal program is attempting to change the culture of athletics in America to remind us what sports is all about, Pecore said. It's about being committed to something. Being dedicated, to be competing on a fair playing field. The role models in the media today are the worst that we can have. That is what we are trying to change.

In addition to coaching soccer, Tom Pecore teaches U.S. History at Putnam City North High School. AS a soccer coach, his career record at PCN is 139-31-3. Hie is a two-time National High School Coaches Association of America and Adidas Large-School Coach of the Year, in 2006 and 2007. He is also a two-All-State coach and is the 2008 Positive Coaching Alliance National Double Goal Coach of the year.

His Panthers team earned it way into the state finals in both 2006 and 2007.

He has been married for 27 years to Jama H. Pecore. The Pecores have three children: 23-year-old twins Amanda and Samantha and 20-year-old Andrew. All three played collegiate soccer - the twins at the University of Science and Arts in Oklahoma (USAO) in Chickasha and Andy at Missouri Southern University in Joplin.

**CPN Environmental Health
Water & Septic System
Assistance Program**

**Water and sewer system
installation for
Native Americans
Call the OEH for information
or assistance**

Telephone number 405-878-4672

Fax number 405-878-4678

Eric, Amy Kimes in North Carolina

Tribal member offers dental work

Reduced cost dental care is now available in North Carolina to Citizen Potawatomi Nation members thanks to a generous and committed tribal member, who is studying to be a dentist, and his dentist wife. Eric and Amy Kimes want to be able to give back to their tribal family and believe this is the most appropriate manner.

Appointments will be available every day Amy's office is open and has an open space, one that is not already booked for an existing patient. This should make it easier for CPN members to work in a convenient time for their own schedules and encourage people to come in and get dental treatment, Eric Kimes said.

Kimes asks that each CPN patient have a valid CPN membership card, which would be presented at time of service, every time the patient is seen.

The fee structure will be identical to that which is already offered at the CPN dental clinic in Shawnee. All operative services will be provided free of charge and any lab work will be billed to the patient at cost. This lab fee will be due in full at the time the lab work is requested.

Kimes added: I have talked to CPN Clinic Director Randy Hall. He believes this system will work out well. We are going to start with this method and see how what our experience is.

In the summer of 2005, Kimes, a CPN member and a descendant of the Ogee family, was preparing to apply to dental school. Amy, a graduate of the University of North Carolina's Dental School, and he were volunteering at the CPN dental clinic. While on the week-long trip they brainstormed about scheduling their next trip out to Oklahoma to volunteer again.

On a break from the clinic, they examined a map of the United States, which split out the number of CPN members living in each state. Then, the idea came to them: There were enough members living in and around their home in North Carolina to make it viable to provide dental care to CPN members living in that area on a year-round basis. They could take care of CPN members in their region without traveling to Oklahoma.

As the tribal government expands throughout the country, we are able to offer volunteer services to CPN members living outside of Oklahoma, Kimes said.

Eric Kimes is no stranger to setting up a viable project. Having already headed two start-up businesses and attained an MBA and a Masters in Finance, he knew that it would take infrastructure and organization to make this volunteer venture work.

We set up a toll-free telephone number, which CPN members can use to schedule an appointment, he said. If this service is going

to be used by members, it has to be convenient and easy to use, so we made appointment-setting available five days a week.

I wanted to have this number separate from Amy's office number, because I don't want CPN members to be confused when they call the front desk. Kimes explained. Instead, they will leave a message, and I will return the call and get them an appointment with Amy.

Kimes also said that he and his wife will be able to use her father's office, which is located in Taylorsville, North Carolina, in the western part of the state. He is also a practicing dentist. If we are getting quite a lot of interest from the western region, we may decide to travel to Amy's Dad's office and perform services there, instead of having people drive toward the Eastern part of the state, where we live, Kimes added. For this reason, I don't want to include the address of the dental office. If, however anyone thinks it would be better to have the office's address listed, please let me know. Amy's office is located in Princeton, North Carolina, which is in Johnston County.

Amy Kimes is also a very accomplished professional. After graduating with honors from the University of North Carolina's dental school, she trained with the 21st Marine Expeditionary Unit and deployed to Afghanistan as a dental officer in Operation Enduring Freedom. She was then stationed at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. This coveted position in the U.S.

Navy provided her the opportunity to perform high-level procedures including performing dental services on a U.S. astronaut and several Navy Admirals.

Being one of only two dentists for a Unit of 2,200 Marines and Sailors deployed in Afghanistan and then working at a high-level post at Naval Postgraduate School gave me a world of experience after dental school, Kimes said.

The Kimeses met and married while living in California. The couple then moved to Amy's native North Carolina, after deciding that Eric would follow in his wife's footsteps and become a dentist. He is currently in the application process for dental school. Meanwhile, Amy is working in a dental practice in Eastern North Carolina as well as teaching part-time at the University of North Carolina's dental school as a member of the adjunct faculty. She is also completing her Masters in Health Administration (MHA) at the University of North Carolina's School of Public Health.

When asked why the couple wanted to provide services to CPN members, they said, "It is a pleasure to give back to the tribe in any way possible. Connecting with our heritage by being part of the present day is part of being a CPN member. It provides meaning and purpose in our lives."

Eric and Amy Kimes live in Smithfield, North Carolina with their 11-month old daughter, Valentina.

Theresa Adame District #4



Dear Tribal Members of the 4th District,

Let me start by thanking you for your confidence. It has helped to bring me this far in the election process. I am honored to be a candidate for your representative.

Many of you have probably felt like I have for years, alone in Kansas with no expression of my Native American heritage. I also know many of you have never voted. You have now been given a chance to be a part of history. Please don't let this opportunity pass you by. It is a new government in the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and the new chance for you to reclaim your

heritage.

I want to use my 20 years of business experience and my passion for the revitalization of the Potawatomi culture in Kansas to work for you.

Theresa Adame
Member of the Navarre - Burns Family

Hurb Adams - District #4



Age 69, born on a farm at Bronaugh, Missouri, lived with my parents in Kansas as a child. My wife and I now live in Rossville, Kansas at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation community apartments with other members of our tribe. You are welcome to visit with us whenever you are in the area.

* Graduated from Nevada High School, Nevada, Missouri, 1955

* BS in Chemical Engineering, University of Missouri-Rolla, 1960

* MBA, Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan, 1971

* BASF Corporation, 12 years, chemical engineer, operations supervisor for manufacturing

* Founders Alliance Corporation, 11 years, consultant, vice-president

* City of Detroit, 14 years, instructor in mathematics and technology with adult students at General Motors, Chrysler, and other locations.

* Officer in The United States Army, Corps of Engineers, 1.5 years.

If elected, I believe that my professional expertise and past experiences will enable me to provide an excellent representation for all members of our tribe in the Kansas District. Being retired, I will have plenty of time to listen to the people in my district, and to make your ideas and concerns known in Shawnee, Oklahoma. My past experiences working with budgets, feasibility studies, audits, project planning, time management, legal contracts, and government regulations will enable me to concentrate on the issues with priority and communicate them with effectiveness. The best reason to elect me as your representative is that I not only will give the duties my best effort, but I can really put my heart into it.

Neely in Antarctica, con't. from page 1

backward, forward and backward in my bed. Wet tablecloths were used in the dining room so plates and cups would not slide off the tables.

Each day, we boarded zodiacs (rubber rafts) for two or three landings or trips through the iceberg-clogged sea. One time we had a landing at 10:30 p.m., but we still had plenty of light since the sun shines most of the time during the Antarctic summer. Temperatures weren't that much dif-

ferent than during the winter in northern Missouri, low teens to 20s. However, the wind, at times, was quite fierce and made it seem much colder. Deep snow and ice were everywhere you turned.

We were at each landing sight for about three hours. We spent about two hours on our projects and then had an hour to observe penguins, skuas, and seals. I saw elephant seals bellowing and splashing in the bay and a leopard seal resting on a chunk of ice. The penguins (Adelie,

Gentoo, and Chinstrap) were fascinating to watch as they stole stones from each other for their nests and squawked as skuas hovered above watching for an unattended egg or chick. These penguins waddle while holding their wings and tails out for balance. They spend most of their lives in the sea, coming on shore to mate and produce chicks.

My team used a theodolite, compass, GPS readings, and a camera to create a data base of current glacier photos. We are

in the process of comparing photos we took with historic photos to learn whether there has been glacier retreat. At one location, when we compared our photo to a 1934 photo, using theodolite readings and trigonometry, there was a 14-meter difference in the height of the glacier.

Antarctica is the coldest, highest, windiest, and driest continent. It is the third-smallest continent after Europe and Australia. It contains approximately 80% of the Earth's fresh water. Ice on the conti-



nent varies from one to three miles thick.

Trapped within that ice is a record of climate and atmospheric conditions for the last 500,000 years. This is providing a laboratory for monitoring the health of the Earth. Fewer than 150,000 people have ever set foot on Antarctica. This last unspoiled continent does not belong to just one country. It belongs to the planet and must be kept as an immense, pristine wilderness!

Dr. Neely returned from Antarctica with a treasure chest of amazing photos. In #1, the ship she was on navigates an iceberg field off the Antarctic coast. In #2, she caught a Chinstrap Penguin preparing to walk away. In #3, Dr. Neely prepares for a night's sleep...or poses for a whimsical photo. You choose. Dr. Neely found animals other than penguins in Antarctica. Photo #4 shows a sea lion. The blue-ice icebergs are amazing, as in #5. The wreckage of an old whaling vessel, with the scientific party's modern ship in the background (#6) creates an interesting dichotomy. These Peterman Island Penguins (#7) seem to be able holding a meeting. Mayhaps, they are discussing who will baby-sit the young ones you can see with their mother on the nest. There was scientific work to be done as Dr. Neely records theodolite readings while a co-worker peers through the instrument (#8). Photos #9 and #10 show Antarctica's H₂O in both its solid and liquid forms. Finally, despite some photos we saw that show members of the research expedition frolicking in the Antarctic Ocean in bathing suits, it was obviously a grand idea to be bundled up for protection against the cold, as Dr. Neely is here (#11). And, yes, more of those pesky, omnipresent penguins sneaked into the background of the photo.



Walking On

Carl Dean Dement



BRIDGEPORT, Texas - Carl Dean Dement, 70, was born on October 12, 1936. He walked on on August 10, 2007 in Decatur, Texas. He was a retired contract pumper.

A graveside service was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, August at the East Bridgeport Cemetery with Marc Moore officiating. The flag presentation was performed by the Wise County Veterans Group. Pallbearers were David Bush, Ronald Barnes, Shaun Pollock, Christopher Adams, Billy Richey, and Joe Spark.

Carl was born in Sacred Heart, Oklahoma, the son of Jack and Ethyl Delonais Dement. He married Betty Sue Ray on June 28, 1968 in Perrin, Texas. Carl had lived in the Bridgeport community since 1974. He was a U.S. Army Veteran, a citizen of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, and a Catholic.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Carl Dement, Jr.; a granddaughter, Tasha Smith; a brother, Jackie Dale Dement; and a sister, Patricia Cooper. Survivors are his wife of 39 years, Sue Dement of Bridgeport; a daughter, Sheila Adams and husband John of Oklahoma City; sons, Jerry Dement of Oklahoma City and Rick and Terry Smith both of Bridgeport; six grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; sisters, Fay Orr and Deloris Waggoner and her husband Ed, all of Oklahoma City; and several nieces and nephews.

Nicki Lynn Peltier

Shawnee resident Nicki Lynn Peltier, 61, passed away Friday, Feb. 15, 2008 at his home. He was born February 2, 1947 in



Shawnee, Oklahoma, the son of Kenneth Peltier Sr. and Pauline Peltier.

Nicki worked as a machinist at Eaton Corp. and before being forced to retire because of his pain, worked at Tinker Air Force Base as a machinist. He was a member of Northridge Church of Christ in Shawnee.

Nicki was Citizen Potawatomi and was responsible for changing the tribe's security guard contingent into a fully-functioning Police Department that continues to bring pride to his tribe today. He also owned and enjoyed racing his '88 Mustang Smo-ker. Nicki rested his eight-year struggle with cancer, leaving many loved ones in sorrow.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Pauline Peltier and a brother: Kenneth Peltier Jr.

Survivors include his wife of 42 loving years, Smo Peltier of Shawnee; a son: Nicki L. Peltier II and wife Dianna of Bethel; two daughters, Vicki D. Keener and husband Mike of Bethel and Tina Thompson of Bethel; his father, Kenneth Peltier Sr. and step-mother Lillian of Shawnee; two sisters, Tanya Peltier of Shawnee and Marsha Sims and husband Bill Sims Sr. of Shawnee; ten grandchildren, Tyler, Vanni, and Caine West, Nicki III, Kyle, Jeffrey, and Luke Peltier, Aubbi and Courtli Thompson, and Jason Keener; and many more family members and friends.

A funeral service was held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at the Northridge Church of Christ with Mike Shelburne and Cliff Craig officiating. Burial was at Dale Cemetery.

Jo Ruth Williams Davis



Jo Ruth (Springer) Williams Davis, 74, a longtime Seminole, Oklahoma- and Wolf, Oklahoma-area resident, passed away Friday, February 8, 2008 at her residence in Seminole at the age of 74. She was born on February 28, 1933 in Pottawatomie County, Oklahoma, the daughter of Thomas Alexander and Martha Evelyn (Greemore) Springer.

She attended Maud Public Schools. She was a tribal member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

Jo married Thomas Charles 'Chili' Williams on December 2, 1950 in Socorro, New Mexico, and he preceded her in death on July 14, 1984. She later married Bobby Wayne Davis on April 11, 1997 in Miami, Oklahoma, and he preceded her in death on November 24, 2003.

Jo worked as a secretary for Seminole Waterproofing Company for several years. She also operated two cafes, in Earlsboro and Maud, Oklahoma, with her husband Chili. Jo enjoyed cooking and was well known for her wonderful pies. She also enjoyed gardening, going to senior citizens dances, and spending time with her loving family and friends.

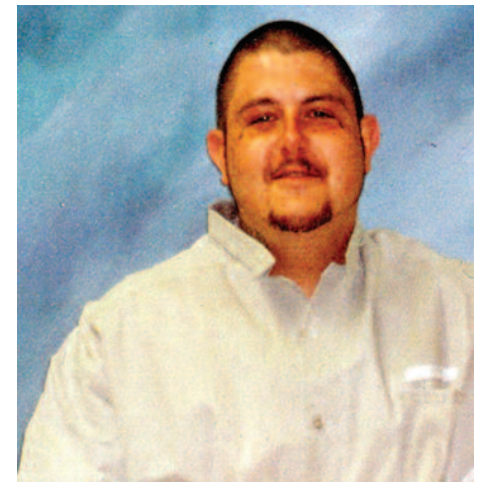
She is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Tina and Brent Jones of Wolf; a son and daughter-in-law, Tony and Jeanne Williams of Bethel, OK; her special companion, Henry 'Doc' Jordan of Seminole; a sister, Mary Prine of Nevada, Missouri; seven grandchildren, Brandon Jones, David Williams, Laura Blevins, Michael Williams, Charles Williams, Jennifer Williams, and Christopher Williams; a sister-in-

law, Kay Springer-Felkins of Seminole; a special niece, Kelley Johnson of Seminole; and a host of other family members and friends.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Elvin Springer, Arthur 'Ott' Springer, Thomas 'Tom' Springer, and Calvin Springer; and two sisters, Velma Reese and Eula White.

A funeral service was held on Monday, February 11, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at Swearingen Funeral Home Chapel in Seminole with Rev. Carl Whitfield officiating. Interment was at Wolf Cemetery. Services were under the direction of Swearingen Funeral Home.

Jack McCall Chance



Jack McCall Chance, 24, walked on on February 8, 2008. He was born on April 29, 1983, the son of Cathy Pinson. A funeral service was held at Highland Park Missionary Baptist Church in Midwest City, Oklahoma at 11:00 a.m. on February 15, with the Rev. Jessie Spurlock officiating. Interment was at Worley Cemetery in Oklahoma City.

Jack is survived by four sisters, Lisa Hall of Oliver Springs, Tennessee, Amye Marie Bolte of Texas, Carla Gale Day of Texas, and Chelcy Reese Pinson of Oklahoma City.

Jack's mother, Cathy Pinson, wrote the following in tribute to him and his life: Jack loved the Lord and witnessing for Him. He also loved his family, basketball, drawing, and playing the guitar. His girlfriend, Kathy Wheeler, told Jack's Mom that he really loved her. His letters were always uplifting and encouraging. Jack had a way of lifting your spirits when you were down.

It was a misfortune that Jack didn't have a father to look up to as a child. He did eventually accept Dan Pinson as his earthly dad. The great news is that Jack turned to the Almighty Father in the end. He loved to read the Bible.

His mom was tops to him. When he wrote letters to me, Jack would quote scriptures, and even asked me to re-evaluate my life.

I tried for years to get help for Jack and, since he wasn't a threat to himself or others, there was no help to be found. Along with some

mental challenges, Jack's size sometimes made it difficult for him to interact with kids his own age. Through it all, he was a loving, good son, nephew, and grandson.

Jack is loved and will be greatly missed. Please find peace in knowing Jack is in God's hands and in the best place to be.

Garry Dean Lynch



Garry Dean Lynch was born in Palouse, Whitman County, Washington on April 14, 1936. He walked on on January 12, 2008. He was the first of two sons born to Ernest and Lucille Darling Lynch. Both his parents were from homesteading families that came to Washington in the late 1870s and early 1900s. He was very proud of his early American, Scots Irish heritage as well his ancient Native American ancestry passed on through his moth-

er from the Darling-Ouilmette families of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation.

As a youngster during WW II, he traveled with his Dad, Mom and baby brother in an 18-foot Schult trailer. They moved with Morris Knudsen Construction all over the Midwest to work on high priority government construction such as Ammunition Dumps and other sites to support the war effort. Garry's early education was fragmented and interrupted as a result.

Near the end of war, his family returned to Spokane, Washington. School seemed parochial, limiting and irrelevant after all he had seen and done with his parents. He turned his attention to funding his early interest in motorcycles and cars by working at a variety of jobs. Early on, he understood the relation between hard work and the freedom to make choices. This crystallized his work ethic that lasted until the week he died.

Because school seemed restrictive, Garry asked his parents to give their permission to join the Navy at 17. He shipped out in 1953 during his first enlistment and served four tours of duty in the Pacific aboard the destroyer, USS Gregory. He left service and worked for Kaiser Aluminum for a short time in Spokane. He was married for a brief time. When he divorced, he decided he would go back into the Navy and perhaps pursue a career.

He re-entered the service and served aboard the destroyer, USS Hopewell for two more years. He again traveled the entire Pacific. This gave him a lifelong love for places like

see **WALKING ON** on page 16

Potawatomi Cornerstone, con't from page 5

seen only in the north is the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights. Called Wasnode, it was believed that the lights were the spirits moving in the direction of the west along the Spirit Path, the Jibe Myew, on their way to the spirit world.

Oral tradition also warns us about comets and meteors. One truly spectacular event happened centuries ago, when a meteor impacted the northern part of Quebec. Evidence of a large crater exists, now a lake. Oral history tells us that one of four star spirits streaking across the sky wanted to scare the people. It came in so close that it lost control and hit the Earth. The crater was observed for many years. Eventually, it filled with water, creating a lake. The surrounding area, scarred by the impact, healed and came back to life as well. One day, a ferocious animal emerged from the lake and was called Gwiingwa'aage, One Who Came from the Shooting Star. He is the wolverine.

Another story tells of Gnowanwe Negos, the Long Tailed Heavenly Climbing Star. The comet came so close that it spread fire along its path. The Great Spirit Gchi'Manitou, warned the people of the impending disaster. Those who listened to him covered themselves with mud and

moss to protect themselves from the heat of its fiery tail. All others, including the animals and the landscape along the path of the comet's tail, were all burned.

This account occurred a very long time ago, but it is also reminiscent of a more current event known as the Great Firestorm of 1871. Thought to be Biela's comet that appeared in 1832, it missed colliding with the Earth by one month. As a result of the Earth's gravitational force, the comet split in two causing it to change its trajectory. The now-double comets appeared in 1839 and 1846.

It is believed that the Earth's orbit passed through the comet's debris field on October 8, 1871, causing an amazing firestorm that affected the Great Lakes area.

This is just an introduction into the fascinating spectrum of Neshnabe Star Culture. There is so much more to learn from it. We can study the physical laws, mathematical principles, and equations that guide the stars, the planets, the sun and moon, and other celestial objects. All astronomers and stargazers have one thing in common: the thrill and wonderment they get from just looking up at the night sky.

Gene Lambert - District #5

**VOTE FOR EUNICE IMO'GENE' LAMBERT
YOUR VOICE IN THE LEGISLATURE.
NINE YEARS SERVED AS THE REGIONAL
DIRECTOR FOR REGION #5**



As the Regional Director, I am aware of the issues concerning our Region now! There is no time to catch up. We need continued leadership as the first legislative body implements the necessary foundation (base) to lead our great nation.

We have the strongest leadership in our acting officers. Let's carry that through with a legislator in tune with the road of success we now travel.

Here are some published statements used to describe my professional background: *Articulate and successful businesswoman who would be my choice for State Senate* - Scottsdale, Arizona Progress,

Jonathan Marshall

Give me professional intelligent people like Gene Lambert with whom I can work. - Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt

A tigress who knows how to make things happen. - Carolyn Warner, Director, Arizona Department of Education

The most important thing to remember is we need to build a Nation that will not only meet the needs of our membership today but will include the future wellbeing of our children tomorrow

I was born on the 4th of July, and I believe in this Country as it stands and our place within it as the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Let me continue to represent you.

Vote Vote Vote Vote Vote Vote

Ed Burns - District #5



I would like to thank all of you who were kind enough to vote for me, and now I humbly ask for your vote, in this run off election. I am not a politician or a great speaker, but it will be an honor and a privilege to serve as your legislator, for our great Potawatomi Nation.

My wife and I are both retired, and look forward to serving the needs of our people full-time. I hope to meet and visit with many of you, to see how I can be of help to you.

I am running against a lovely qualified lady, and I think this is going to be a real horse race. In horse races, old horses finish last or they're just put out to pasture. Well, I'm just not ready for either of those options!

Please Vote

**Your friend and brother, Mesho
emb@bresnan.net**

CPN Clinic Notes

By Randy Hall, MPH, clinic director

Greetings to each of you from the members of the Medical Staff and all the employees at the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Health Services.

If you have visited the Health Services clinic recently, you have undoubtedly noticed that we are quite literally bursting at the seams. Over the last five years, Health Services has continuously expanded services and staff to enable us to serve a larger number of people and to offer a broader array of medical and health-related services to our patients.

Our staff has grown from just over 40 employees in 2002 to more than 100 today. During that period, we added a physician, a dentist, a part-time cardiologist, a part-time orthopedist, two pharmacists, a medical technologist, two behavioral health and substance abuse counselors, and all of the ancillary staff members necessary to support the additional providers and practitioners.

We added the FireLake Wellness Center with its staff of six exercise and fitness specialists in the fall of 2003, and we opened the CPN Mail Order Pharmacy (C-MOP) in January 2006. The Wellness Center, which houses our Diabetic Initiative staff as well as the exercise and fitness program, has evolved into the locus of our preventative services. The C-MOP, with its staff of just two full-time employees, is one of the most efficiently-run and effective mail order pharmacy programs anywhere.

To house all of the new staff and their equipment, we have converted single offices into multiple offices, bathrooms into triage areas, conference rooms into business offices, and pharmacy waiting and counseling rooms into added shelf space to accommodate expanded pharmaceutical stocks. We have relocated the shipping and receiving department to what was Charlie's Golf Cart Repair just south of the clinic, and converted areas formerly used for specialty care into doctors' offices and examination rooms. I could go on, but I think you get the picture; we have completely maxed-out the capacity of our present facility.

Because any organization that has no room to grow soon begins to atrophy, we began, more than two years ago, to look at options for expanding. Expansion of the existing building seemed impractical due to encroachment from adjacent enterprises.



Randy Hall, CPN Clinic Director, confers with the clinic's Vicki Canfield.

Thus, with the advice and oversight of the Business Committee and the Health Services Governing Body, we began to look at the possibility of building a satellite clinic or annex.

In 2006, we obtained a Housing and Urban Development grant for funding part of the satellite facility. We identified a building site on land already owned by the Nation on McLoud Road just north of Interstate 40. Initial plans were made.

After a lengthy environmental assessment process, those plans are about to come to fruition. Within the next few months, the building that will permit our staff some much-needed breathing room will become a reality.

Initially, we will simply move a portion of our existing staff to the new facility. Even though we won't experience a net increase in our medical staff, the move will have the added benefit to our patients of easier access for those living west of Shawnee in Harrah, Newalla, Choctaw, and the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. In the ensuing years, as funding permits, the new facility will permit us to expand our medical staff by adding two more physicians and at least one additional dentist.

I have seen the initial architectural drawings of the satellite clinic. It will be an attractive, well laid-out facility that every Citizen Potawatomi can be proud of. I'll keep you up-to-date on our progress over the next several months as we approach the

ribbon-cutting.

Family Reunion Festival 2008 is just over four months away, and this year, as we have in the past, the Health Services will be conducting a health fair featuring blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar screenings as well as opportunities to talk with our staff about dietary issues, smoking cessation, oral hygiene, and chronic disease self-management.

Our dentists will be conducting dental screenings and assessments, and our physicians will be on hand to deal with urgent care issues that Festival-goers might encounter and to conduct a limited number of routine new patient visits for tribal members desiring to establish a chart here. They will also be available for follow-up visits for established patients who are only in the area during Festival each year.

Our audiologist will be on hand on Friday and Saturday to perform hearing assessments, and our physical fitness staff will be available both days to talk with attendees about their fitness routines and to help design exercise programs. Screenings and counseling are available to all Festival-goers; no appointment is necessary. I hope you will participate.

If you would like an appointment with a dentist, physician, or the audiologist, please contact our scheduler at 405-878-4693. Please call early; appointments are limited and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. If you are a new patient, we'll send you a registration packet that

you can complete and mail back to us to save you time during Festival.

Just a reminder: Citizen Potawatomi who are 63 years of age or older are eligible for pharmacy services provided by our CPN Mail Order Pharmacy (C-MOP). If you would like more information about C-MOP, please call 866-900-5236 to talk with a C-MOP pharmacist.

CHC News con't. from page 7

Jesuit Archives in St. Louis, Missouri, and several historical societies. While in Kansas, we visited the end of the Trail of Death on Sugar Creek near Osawatomie, and then toured former reservation land and original allotment sites near St. Marys, Kansas.

Beginning with the Potawatomi Trail of Death, the primary feature of the documentary will be to depict the tribe's stay in Kansas and explore the migration from the Kansas reserve to Indian Territory in the late 1800s. This is where you can help us. We are in need of more information on the migration from Kansas to Oklahoma as that is one of the least documented segments of the tribe's recent history. We would like to hear from tribal members who may have information such as photographs, diaries, or letters related to their family's journey to Oklahoma. If you would like to contribute any information, please contact us.

Tribal Heritage Project
Citizen Potawatomi Nation
Cultural Heritage Center
1899 S. Gordon Cooper Drive,
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801
405.878.5830 ext. 7114
tribalheritage@potawatomi.org



Crosses at Sugar Creek, Kansas

Language Department News

There are many opportunities available for tribal members to become involved in our language and culture. Currently, there is a beginners class online on Monday evenings and Tuesday afternoons. We also have a variety of games and tools available for people who prefer to progress at their own pace.

Recently we have added the Potawatomi Flood Story, a video which can be viewed at the Language Department's main page on the Web site, www.Potawatomi.org. We hope that people will take an opportunity to learn our language and more about our culture.

This language needs your help if it is to continue to be a spoken and vibrant language into the future. We are at a critical time as a people. Within the next five to

ten years, we will probably lose our last fluent speakers. These are speakers who grew up speaking Potawatomi as a first language.

We urge you to take an active interest in our language and culture. Our language and ways have been around for thousands of years. Please help ensure that they are around for another 1,000 years. This is important even if you can only learn one or two phrases, such as the skit in this edition of the *HowNiKan*. Learn it well and use it. We will continue to have additional skits each month. We will also have either a video or audio version of them on the Web site soon.

Migwetch
Justin Neely

The cycle of life and the Bodewadmi people

If someone asks me, How do you say, 'What time is it?' I will often point out that the concept of time is somewhat foreign to the Bodewadmi.

Of course, our people recognized the fact that days and seasons pass. However, they were more concerned with getting things done right than they were about fitting them into a stringent schedule.

We often hear people joke about 'Indian time.' Basically, the concept is that things get done in the time needed to complete the task. This is in direct conflict with the European/American mindset.

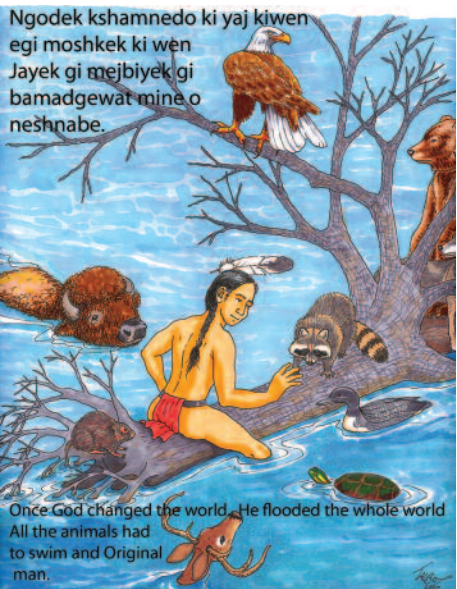
We lived our lives in a way that we were in direct contact with nature, thus it was these natural rhythms or cycles which we watched to know when to do certain activities. For example, we watched for the arrival of 13 different moons. Each of these moons was named according to events that should be taking place during that period, such as strawberry-picking moon, maple syrup moon, leaves-changing-color moon, and suckerfish moon.

This month, March, is NMEBNE GISES or suckerfish moon. It was at this time of the year that this particular fish ran back to its spawning grounds. We will include the name of the month and perhaps a little information about the month in each *HowNiKan*.



Because months were based on where we lived, there is a different set of months used in Kansas. There, March is called Jejak Gises - crane month, because this is the month when cranes fly back to the area. I have often thought about coming up with our own description of the months unique to Oklahoma.

Our ancestors also celebrated the changing of the seasons. For this reason, we paid very close attention to the stars and astronomy.



This is one of the panels which illustrate the telling of the Potawatomi Flood Story, the video presentation prepared by the Language Department.

Short Skit

Person 1: Bozho (Hello)
Person 2: Bozho (Hello)
P1: Neshnabe ne gdaw? (Are you Indian?)
P2: Konege, Neshnabe ndaw? (Yes, I am Indian.)
P1: Wateya, Bama pi. (Wow, Later on.)
P2: Bama mine (Later again.)

Word Scramble

Obhzo	- ?????
Beenhsna	- ????????
Yteaaw	- ??????
Genekon	- ???????
Wdag	- ????



Application deadline is May 30

PLP applications solicited

The Citizen Potawatomi Nation has issued a call for applications for the 2008 version of the Potawatomi Leadership Program. Linda Capps, CPN Vice Chairman, said, The Potawatomi Leadership Program (PLP) is designed to give you workplace experience and earnings for college. The program is only open to enrolled tribal members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation (CPN) and is limited to six students. The dates for the 2008 program begin on June 23 through August 1. Travel time will be the weekend prior to June 23 and after August 1.

In order to qualify for the program, applicants must have a current grade point average of 3.0, be 18 years old by December 31, 2008, may not be older than 20 years old by December 31, 2008, and, in the 2008-09 school year, be entering into either their senior year in high school or their freshman year in college. They also must be willing to devote six weeks of their summer to come to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation headquarters in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

If you apply to the program and are chosen to participate, the CPN will pay you to work for the tribe for six weeks as an intern, Capps said. The CPN will also provide your round-trip transportation from your home and will help subsidize your food expense.

PLP participants will stay in dormitory housing at the CPN headquarters. They will report to headquarters every workday and will comply with a workplace schedule and dress code. They will be assigned to different departments throughout the six-week program.

Vice Chairman Capps adds, Your job will be to attend classroom instruction and job-shadowing, learn how your tribe works, and assist in any duties assigned to you. During the last week of the program you will write a term paper about your experiences at the CPN and then give an oral report, based on your paper, to the Legislature for a pass/fail grade.

If prospective applicants or their parents have any questions, they can call Dennette Summerlin at the tribal headquarters. The

toll-free number is 800-880-9880, ext. 1103. The CPN telephone switchboard is open between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., CST.

Applications have been mailed to prospective applicants. They can also be downloaded from www.Potawatomi.org at www.potawatomi.org/Downloads/Downloads_GetFile.aspx?id=713. The deadline for receipt of applications at CPN tribal headquarters is May 30, 2008.

Walking On con't. from page 13

Australia and the exotic islands he would later travel as a tourist. He felt that the service had changed, and left the service to return home to work again at Kaiser with his father, Ernest and grandfather, Oscar.

He met his wife, Carol Ann Klassen, who saw him as a diamond in the rough. She saw his potential and encouraged him to use his GI Bill benefits to Complete his education. She convinced him to enroll at Eastern Washington State College, and fill in the missing pieces. He graduated in three years with a BA in Business Administration with a specialty in Physical Transportation and Distribution.

His professional credits were rich and varied: Consolidated Freightways, Lyle Moving and Storage, Atlas Van Lines-Alexander's Moving and Storage. He retired in 2000 and planned a full agenda of work on his cars, work on his hobbies, and travel to his favorite places.

His family meant more to him than anything

else in his life. He tamed and focused his passions and interests, conquered his personal demons, managed his health issues to the end with courage and determination. His altruism and mentoring was personal and still surfaces as people tell what he meant to them or how he helped them change their lives.

Garry is survived by his wife, Carol of Battle Ground, Washington; brother, Steven Lynch of Beaverton, Oregon; uncle, Robert Irwin, Vancouver, Washington; children, Michelle (Jim) Corso of Sandy, Oregon, Kelly Lynch, Phoenix, Arizona and Garry David Lynch, Beaverton, Oregon; grandchildren, Joshua, Chelsea, and Kyle.

Internment was at Willamette National Cemetery, Portland, Oregon.

CPN Veterans Organization

A year ago a small group of veterans from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation felt it was important to have a voice, where we can meet and share experiences, good or bad, and have speakers come in to talk about various subjects like benefits from the Veterans Administration. We also wanted our Nation to have an honor guard to represent not only the veterans group but our proud Nation, also.

We meet every fourth Tuesday each month. If you are interested in joining, call me at 405-735-9571.

Keith Cagle, Vice President
CPN Veterans Organization

Ed Anderson - District #8

I am not a politician, I AM A POTAWATOMI. I believe in our future.

I am ready and have the time and energy to help manage our tribal affairs. I will work to help our members get better health care as well as scholarships for college and trade schools.

I encourage our tribal members to take advantage of our language department and learn our language and our ceremonies so dear to our forefathers.

As your representative, I will lead you into the future for the good of our tribe and its people.

Migwech (Thank You)
Nahmankwet (Lead Cloud)
William E. Anderson, District #8



I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VOTE

Ed Anderson - District #8

JACQUELINE TAYLOR DISTRICT #8



Graduate of Boise State, founding member of Indian student organization, Dama Soghop.

Director of Volunteer Services, State of Idaho Dept. of Human Services, in a three-county region.

Director of Clatsop County, Oregon ARC.

Co-owned six retail drug stores in Idaho and Oregon and served as corporate treasurer.

Former state legislator, legislative member of Oregon Commission on Indian Affairs; assigned to Pacific Northwest Economic Region Council, which included Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Montana, and two Canadian provinces.

Served as a Clatsop County Commissioner. Volunteer involvement with teens, elders and disabled persons.

Jacqueline Taylor

Ralph Bergeron Bazhaw *Nishbon'sek* Legislative District #2



Family: Great Grandson of Watchekee, daughter of Chief Joseph and Monaska. Grandfather, Charles Bergeron, and Father, Robert Bergeron (Bazhaw), were on original tribal rolls of Citizen Band Potawatomi. Ralph and wife, Lois, have a son, Ron, and a daughter, Lana, and five grandsons. They reside in Pleasant Garden, North Carolina.

Education: Graduate, Cement, Oklahoma High School; BSEE, Oklahoma State University; Masters Certificate Project Management, George Washington University

Experience: Retired after 31 years in telecommunications for the Bell System (engineering, sales, and project management.) Currently instructor GTCC and high school basketball referee. Ralph shares his heritage with children and adults at schools, nursing homes, and other organizations.

Education - Experience - Heritage - Bridging the Generations

Ralph is a man with a deep spiritual center who can bring people together using wisdom of the past to solve the problems of today. He possesses the foresight to plan for the future.

With the help of the Great Spirit, I offer myself in service to my people. I would appreciate your vote. - Ralph Bazhaw

Robert Whistler for Legislative District #3

With Your Vote You Get

A Committed and Experienced
Public Servant
(Currently Elected City Council
Member-Bedford, TX)

A Successful Businessman Who
and Will Look for New Tribal
Opportunities

Plus

a CPN member who has been very active with the Nation over many decades.

- * Regular voting in tribal elections.
- * Regular attendance at Regional and Annual tribal meetings/events.
- * Familiar with tribal proceedings & have judged festival programs
- * Contributor to Veterans' Cultural Exhibit
- * Nephew of previous Arizona Regional Representative
- * Known for being innovative and bringing new ideas forward
- * I am a good listener and provider of Citizen needs as a legislator



I need your vote and promise to serve you well!

Questions?

Call me
at

817-868-9928

Vote for

Robert Whistler - District 3

www.RobertWhistler.Com

VOTE FOR

JASON O'NEAL

HONOR - COURAGE - COMMITMENT

As a veteran of the United States Marine Corps and with more than 13 years of government service I have gained the knowledge and understanding to make good, tough decisions.

Our newly created legislative body needs someone with experience in budgeting, contracts, technology, and public safety. My Law Enforcement career has provided me with the experience necessary to meet these challenges.



As Chief of Police my duties include the budget and administration of millions of federal and tribal funds. Over the past 2 ½ years alone I have applied for, been awarded, and successfully implemented four federal grants totaling nearly 2-million dollars.

I offer strong leadership and have the ability to get quick results. In the midst of today's opinions of politicians I believe there are still those select few of us who truly can make a difference.

David Barrett District #10

Experience - Hard Work
Strong Leadership - Honesty



I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you who cast your votes and supported me in the Primary Election, in which I had the largest number of votes. We are now in a run-off and need to look closer at the those *QUALIFICATIONS* that are important to a CPN Legislator:

- * Ability to understand contracts, financial statements, and federal regulations
- * Long-range vision while accomplishing short range objectives
- * Ability to cooperate and compromise with other members of the Legislative, the Judicial, and the Executive branches in the best interests of the entire tribe
- * Computer literacy & Culture knowledge or a willingness to learn and disseminate the traditions of the tribe

I offer these qualities to the Oklahoma voters and members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. - *David Barrett*

David Barrett and his family have a vast knowledge of how the CPN operates its enterprises and government programs. David and wife Connie have been married for 36 years. David is a member of the Bourassa family. While serving the Nation in different capacities, I have been able to study our policies, procedures, and Constitution. I have been able to step to the plate to serve the Nation in a fair, objective manner.

I saw all candidates in District 10 to be aptly qualified for the position. It is my opinion, however, that business leadership experience is essential in this matter. It is for that reason that I am endorsing David Barrett for District 10 legislator. - James Blevins, District #10 former candidate

I would like to thank candidate James Blevins for his endorsement. - David Barrett

Quality Housing for Quality People



* The CPN offers a quality-of-life upgrade at its CPN Elders Village in beautiful, friendly Rossville, Kansas. The spacious housing units offer two bedrooms and come equipped with ALL major appliances.

* All of this is available for a sliding scale rent that maxes out at \$250/month. **YOU WILL PAY NO MORE THAT !!**

* For a short time only, **your seventh month is free** with a one-year commitment.

* We are developing a shuttle service to transport our Potawatomi residents to locations in Rossville and nearby Topeka for medically necessary reasons.



* The CPN Elders Village is a short walk or a quick car trip from anything you need in Rossville. Topeka, the Kansas capitol, with all the shopping, entertainment, medical services, and other amenities you need is a very short 15-minute trip away.

* Rossville is traditional Potawatomi land; reminders of our past are everywhere. The people of Rossville are very welcoming and accommodating.



* Groups of Potawatomis from in and around Rossville are using the community center for social activities and learning opportunities. Recently, there have been dress-making and powwow dance classes.



Your home can be like this - with a spacious living area and bedrooms along with a well-equipped kitchen and utility room!!



The Kansas capitol, Topeka, is a 15-minute drive away, with plenty of shopping and lots of recreational activities, from a top-notch zoo to the trails in Shanga Park to the Summer Nationals drag-racing event.

Enhance your quality of life!

Call Scott George at 405-273-2833 or 800-880-9880 for more important details.



CITIZEN POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

CPCDC Success Story:

Yancey, Inc. - dba Shawnee Cleaners

Eleven years ago, Dwight and Darcee Yancey saw the potential of a local business that was being mismanaged. While they knew relatively little about the dry cleaning/laundry industry, they did know they could work hard and learn the ropes.

That was then. Today, the Yanceys are proud to say that they continue to work hard at growing their customer base at Shawnee Cleaners located at 707 E. Independence in the Del Plaza shopping mall in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

The term hard work isn't an exaggeration either; customers drop off and pick up their clothes Monday through Sunday 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Many would say all dry cleaners and launderers are the same; however, Shawnee Cleaners' customers would argue that personal service, convenience, and flexible hours make all the difference in the world.

That work ethic and personal service were apparent to the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation (CPCDC) when the Yanceys sought assistance to buy newer equipment and remodel the company's entryway.

Although the business had been running for several years, the Yanceys experienced challenges that many small entrepreneurs face. Small businesses have difficulty providing adequate cash flow for traditional financial institutions, recalls Mr. Yancey. We didn't have a consistent proven track record and felt apprehensive about approaching a conventional financial source. Banks seem to require their customers to be a perfect fit of their credit

mold, and it was somewhat intimidating.

After reading an advertisement about the CPCDC in the HowNiKan, the Yanceys decided to call. The Yanceys felt that, as tribal members, they could confidently approach the CPCDC, having their situation assessed objectively.

Standing behind Shawnee Cleaners newly-stained counters the Yanceys respond to what they remember about dealing with the CPCDC. The CPCDC offered solutions when others wouldn't even hear us out. Its staff was able to recognize the merit of our endeavor and believed in us. Once we got all of the information to the CPCDC, our deal was wrapped up in just a few weeks.

With newer equipment and a fresh facelift, Shawnee Cleaners has kept pace with other cleaners, improving turn-around time for its customers. Before we received help from the CPCDC we felt we were suffocating as a business. Now, we have the capacity to grow and have a much more positive outlook.

The Yanceys are proud to have created the capacity to provide services for the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. While servicing the nation represents a great opportunity for us revenue-wise, we hope to show our appreciation to the tribe with extremely competitive pricing, dedication to quality, and exceptional service.

The CPCDC proudly supports Shawnee Cleaners and hopes you too will take the opportunity to let the Yanceys earn your business. With hours like 7 a.m. - 9 p.m., Monday through Sunday, it is hard to say you won't have a chance!

If you read the recent headlines stating Credit Card Minimum Payments to Increase with the feeling of panic growing in your chest, you're not alone. With 40% of all families spending more than they make and Americans owing more than \$750 billion in consumer debt, the recent changes will hit many families where it hurts most: their wallets.

Recently, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) directed all credit card banks under its jurisdiction to increase the amount of the required minimum payment on credit cards. They did not specify how much to increase but only stated that at least a portion of the minimum payment must go toward paying off the debt.

Some credit card companies have announced that they will increase the required minimum payment from 2% of the balance to 4%. For example, if you owe \$5,000.00 on a credit card, your current minimum payment would be \$100.00 per month. If the minimum payment increases to 4% of the balance, your new payment would be \$200.00 per month.

If you have other cards with similar balances, you could see a huge difference in the amounts you must pay each month.

Payment Panic: Ready to Cope with A Credit Card Payment Increase?

by Jennifer Delcamp Wallis,

Vice President of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Central Oklahoma

With many families living paycheck to paycheck, doubling debt payments may be devastating to their budgets.

Other credit card companies have announced that they will increase minimum payments but they won't double them. Their new minimum payment will consist of 1% of the balance plus any finance charges and any over-the-limit and late fees. Let's use the same example of the \$5,000.00 credit card at 21% interest. One percent (1%) of the balance would be \$50.00 plus roughly \$87.50 in finance charges. If you don't have late or over-the-limit fees, your new monthly payment would be \$137.50. Obviously, this option would be a little easier to manage.

While it may initially be devastating to many families to have their payments unexpectedly increase, it will be good for them long-term. The new payment increases will save them money over time because they will pay less total interest and will be out of debt sooner. However, it is tough to enjoy the fact that you will be debt-free years sooner when you are worrying about how you will pay your bills next month because of the increases. If you or some-

one you know is worried about the increases, there are some things you can do to prepare.

1. If you haven't already, quit charging. If you are using credit cards to pay for emergencies or to live beyond your means, there has never been a better time to stop. Managing higher payments will mean tightening your budget and changing your lifestyle. If you continue to charge, you will only make the problem worse.

2. Set up a budget. It's important to plan for the increases. If money is tight, you may have to make certain sacrifices to afford the increases. If your payments will increase by \$100.00 per month, you need to determine a source for that money. Are there any luxuries that you can live without for a little while (cell phone, home-phone features, cable or satellite TV, internet access, gym memberships, tanning memberships, beauty shop, eating out, entertainment, etc.)?

3. Increase your income. If your budget is already so tight that it squeaks, you might have to look at other options. Can you work a part-time job? Can you work from home or do some temporary work in

order to produce some extra income? I realize that having to make these sacrifices may not be enjoyable at first, but you won't have to do them forever.

4. Become creative. Sometimes garage sales or on-line auctions can be a good source of cash. A good chunk of cash that you plunk down on a credit card would decrease the balance, therefore the minimum payment. Look around the house and see which stuff you could sell.

5. Talk to your credit card company. If you know that the increase will cause you a financial hardship, your credit card company needs to know that. They might have an internal hardship program that could help you with your payments for a period of time.

6. Consider credit counseling. Reputable credit counseling agencies have agreements worked out with creditors to help you lower your interest and payments. If you can't afford your new minimum payments, a credit counseling agency may be able to help you.

Basically, I am encouraging you to try to not panic. While the news that your payments might soon double may make you want to hide in bed, please try to deal with this new development in a practical way. Try to think ahead and develop a good plan.

Vice Chairman's Column

Potawatomi Leadership Program

What a great program this has proven to be for our tribal youth! The program began in the summer of 2003 under the leadership of Jeremy Finch. The concept of the program is valuable to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation youth, and has been an inspiration to the students who have attended. The main change since its inception is the location where the students are housed and the number of students accepted.

The students now stay near the Nation's headquarters as opposed to being transported across Shawnee to and from the dormitory at St. Gregory's University. This makes for less travel time and more time to spend on activities at and near headquarters. The number of students accepted each year has decreased from eight to six. This number of students has proven to be more suitable to the activities, easier for transportation, and more compatible with accommodations at the Nation.

The PLP is a program that will be



Vice Chairman Linda Capps

around for a long time so please encourage your children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews to look into the program. I truly believe that the past students of the PLP will be among the future leaders of the Nation. This is especially true now that our new Legislature is formed. What a great incentive for our young people who have leadership aspirations!

A link to an online application form is included on page 16 of this edition of the *HowNiKan*. Please take some time to review the application to see if you or a relative might be a good candidate for the program. It is a good opportunity for a tribal member who is preparing to enter either his/her senior year in high school or freshman year in college. There are also age limitations in addition to the criteria for the school year. You may call 1-800-880-9880 and talk with Dennette Summerlin for other specific information.

I send my best regards to the past PLP students. I feel certain that you gained valuable experience while you attended the PLP. If you would like to encourage future students to attend the PLP, please send your comments to the *HowNiKan*. I am quite positive that our tribal members would love to hear from you.

Megwetch,
Linda Capps
Vice Chairman

FireLake Designs

Our new direct-to-cloth printer improves the quality of your product, lowers our prices to you, and allows us to print the shirts, towels, and other items you want in much lower quantities. Call us at 405-878-8770 or 800-246-9610 to learn more about how **FireLake Designs** can meet your needs for corporate apparel, promotional items, vinyl graphics, and signs.

CPN Concrete Batch Plant



Serving all your concrete needs
Quality service * Quality
Product * Free estimates
Call J.R. Beshears at 964-4904

Edwin Burns (Navarre) - Mesho Legislative District #5



I would like to thank all of you who were kind enough to vote for me, and now I humbly ask for your vote, in this run-off election. I am not a politician or a great speaker, but it would be an honor and a privilege to serve as your legislator, for our great Potawatomi Nation.

My wife and I are both retired, and look forward to serving the needs of our people full-time. I hope to meet and visit with many of you, to see how I can be of help to you.

I am running against a lovely, qualified lady, and I think this is going to be a real horse race. In horse races, old horses finishes last, or they are just put out to pasture.

Well, I'm just not ready for either of those options! Contact me at emb@bresnan.net. **Please Vote!!**

Your friend and brother, Mesho

Vote for Edwin Burns